

## Lab on Polar Functions

### 1. Graph of $\sin t$ (1 point)

What is the polar graph of  $\sin(t)$ ?

- a. A circle of radius 1 centered at the origin.
- b. A circle of radius  $1/2$  centered at  $(0, 1/2)$ .
- c. A circle of radius  $1/2$  centered at  $(0, -1/2)$ .
- d. A circle of radius  $1/2$  centered at  $(1/2, 0)$ .
- e. A circle of radius  $1/2$  centered at  $(-1/2, 0)$ .

### 2. Smallest $t$ (1 point)

Set the grapher to start when  $t = 0$ . What ending value of  $t$  is the smallest you need to have the entire circle traced?

- a.  $\pi/4$
- b.  $\pi/2$
- c.  $\pi$
- d.  $2\pi$
- e.  $4\pi$

### 3. $\sin nt$ (0.5 point)

Graph  $\sin(n^* t)$  for various integer values of  $n$ . Make a conjecture about the number of "petals" on the "rose."

- a.  $n$  petals
- b.  $n$  petals if  $n$  is even,  $2*n$  petals if  $n$  is odd
- c.  $n$  petals if  $n$  is odd,  $2*n$  petals if  $n$  is even
- d.  $2*n$  petals

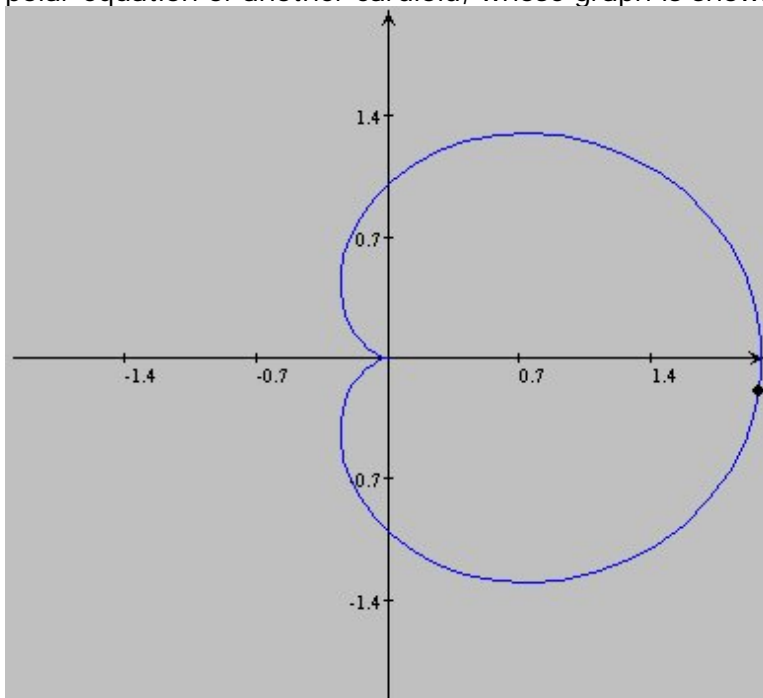
### 4. $\cos nt$ (0.5 point)

Graph  $\cos(n^* t)$  for various integer values of  $n$ . Make a conjecture about the number of "petals" on the "rose."

- a.  $n$  petals
- b.  $n$  petals if  $n$  is even,  $2*n$  petals if  $n$  is odd
- c.  $n$  petals if  $n$  is odd,  $2*n$  petals if  $n$  is even
- d.  $2*n$  petals

**5. Cardioid (1 point)**

The graph of  $1 - \sin(t)$  is called a cardioid, because it is heart shaped. Find the polar equation of another cardioid, whose graph is shown below.



- a.  $1 - \sin(t)$
- b.  $1 + \sin(t)$
- c.  $1 - \cos(t)$
- d.  $1 + \cos(t)$

**6. Symmetry 1 (0.5 point)**

The graph is symmetric with respect to the polar axis. What does this say about the algebraic symmetry of the function?

- a.  $r(t) = r(-t)$
- b.  $r(t) = -r(t)$
- c.  $r(t) = r(\pi/2 - t)$
- d.  $r(t) = r(\pi - t)$

**7. Symmetry 2 (0.5 point)**

A graph is symmetric with respect to the vertical line corresponding to  $t = \pi/2$ . What does this say about the algebraic symmetry of the function?

- a.  $r(t) = r(-t)$
- b.  $r(t) = -r(t)$
- c.  $r(t) = r(\pi/2 - t)$
- d.  $r(t) = r(\pi - t)$

### 8. Shape matching (1 point)

Be a little bit artistic here.

$$\sin(t) * \cos(3*t) \text{ Fish}$$

$$\sin(t) * \cos(2*t) \text{ Butterfly}$$

$$\sin(t) * \cos(5*t) \text{ Spider}$$

### 9. Spiral(1 point)

Think about what the graph of  $r(t) = t$  might look like before you try to graph it. What happens to the graph if you allow negative values of  $t$ ?

- It is a circle, with symmetric values for negative  $t$ .
- It is a parabola, with symmetric values for negative  $t$ .
- It is a spiral, opening out in the opposite direction for negative  $t$ .
- It is a cross between a fish and a spider, and is not defined for negative  $t$ .
- It is a rose with more and more petals, whether  $t$  is positive or negative.

### 10. Fine print (1 point)

I wrote the polar grapher using what are called parametric plots, which treat both  $x$  and  $y$  as depending on  $t$ . If you look at the "fine print" at the bottom of the grapher you can see the formulas for how  $x$  and  $y$  points are being generated. What is the recipe I use?

- It is based on the conversion formulas from polar to rectangular coordinates, with  $r$  given by the polar function of  $t$  that is being plotted.
- It is based on the conversion formulas from rectangular to polar coordinates, with  $x$  and  $y$  computed by the Pythagorean theorem.
- It comes from the metric system.
- It comes from the reciprocal identities.
- It is based on solving quadratic trig equations to determine  $x$  and  $y$ .

### 11. Vertical line test (2 points)

The "vertical line test" can be used to decide if the graph of a given cartesian equation in rectangular coordinates  $x$  and  $y$  represents a function. Explain in a sentence or two why the vertical line test doesn't apply for graphs of polar functions.